



JUMP SMARTER

Welcome to *JUMP Smarter*, the OPI online assessment weekly Smarter updates newsletter. This weekly newsletter will provide updates on Smarter Field Test activities and resources to help with a smooth field test administration.

In this issue:

- Smarter Field Test important dates
- Differentiating between the Smarter tests
- Accessing resources and information
- Links to released field test training modules
- Scheduling and logistics tips
- Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)
- Who to call for Help

Ashley Makowski
Administrative Assistant
406-444-3511
amakowski@mt.gov

Pam Birkeland
Special Projects
pbirkeland@mt.gov

Yvonne Field
Assessment Specialist
406-444-0748
yfield@mt.gov

Judy Snow
State Assessment Director
406-444-3656
jsnow@mt.gov

2014 Smarter Field Test Important Dates

January 24, 2014	AIM Collection Date (OPI to upload basic student data to TIDE for school districts) Districts and schools should keep a record of students who enroll after January 24 and be prepared to enter them in TIDE.
February 17, 2014	System Test Coordinators will begin to receive TIDE passwords and training.
March 18, 2014- May 14, 2014	Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Summative Assessment Field Test Montana Window: English Language Arts and Math, Grades 3-8 and 11- All Schools

Differentiating the Smarter Tests

Pilot Test <i>Spring 2013</i>	Scientific Sample, Grades 3-8 and 11 The purpose of the pilot was to gather data to impact the development of the Smarter Summative Assessment to ensure assessment validity, reliability, and fairness.
Practice Test <i>Available now!</i>	Grades 3-8 and 11 Similar in length and structure to the Field Test, it contains a full array of item types. Emphasis on content and item types
Training Test <i>Coming Soon!</i>	Grade Level Clusters: 3-5, 6-8, High School A shortened assessment for students to become familiar with the software and interface features. Emphasis on tools and interface

Field Test <i>Spring 2014</i>	Grades 3-8, and 11 A large scale full form secure field test. Participation is required for all Montana 3-8, and 11 th graders for accountability purposes. Tests the test not the students. In Montana, the process will also be tested. No results will be reported.
Operational Test <i>Spring 2015</i>	Grades 3-8, and 11 Fully functional online adaptive summative assessment used for mandated accountability purposes.State/District/School/Individual Reports.

Accessing Resources and Information

Resource	Information/Links
OPI Field Test Site	http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1_8 PDF of Field Test Documents, Montana Specific Document and Resources
Smarter Balanced Updates Times TBA	Who: System Test Coordinators and Administrators http://connect.opi.mt.gov/sbac
JUMP Smarter Newsletter Weekly: Wednesdays	Link is sent to all administrators, test coordinators, special education directors and coops, and <u>subscribers</u> when a new edition is posted. http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_3
Webinars By Request	Contact: Yvonne Field, Assessment Specialist at 406-444-0748, yfield@mt.gov to arrange a live webinar training event for you school/district.
Smarter Training Modules	New modules posted as available. See page 3 for details.
Smarter Balanced Assessment Portal	Access Training & Practice Test, Download Secure Browsers, http://sbac.portal.airast.org
Tech Readiness Wiki	Access Tech Readiness Tools and Tech resources for the Field Test on the OPI Website

Training Modules

The following modules were released to the field test portal and are in the process of being posted on the OPI Field Test site. Please share these modules with the appropriate audiences. More will be released in the coming weeks.

<u>Module</u>	<u>Audience</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>What is a Field Test?</u>	Students	Overview of Smarter Balanced and why the students are participating in the Field Test.
<u>What is a CAT (Computer Adaptive Testing)?</u>	Systems and teachers	Explanation of Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT).
<u>Let's Talk Universal Tools</u>	Students and teachers	Description the types of tools available to help students during testing.
<u>Technology Requirements for Online Testing</u>	Technology coordinators	Outlines hardware requirements, software installation processes and system configurations.
<u>Performance Tasks</u>	System and school coordinators, teachers, and administrators	Overview of performance tasks.
<u>Student Interface for Online Testing</u>	Students, IT personnel, system and school administrators	Overview on navigating and interacting with the testing screens.

Scheduling and Logistics

The linked document is a compilation of information to help schools with scheduling decisions:

<http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/Newsletters/TipsandInformationforScheduling.pdf>

Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE)

Online program for registering students to participate in the spring 2014 Smarter Field Test and for access to the designated supports and documented accommodations.

- Students enrolled by January 24, 2014: AIM provides data to TIDE
- Students who enroll after January 24, 2014: Districts/ schools update TIDE

Designated Supports and Documented Accommodations:

- Districts/schools enter in TIDE

Passwords and Training

February 17, 2014 OPI will begin: assigning passwords

TIDE User Guide:

http://opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/SMART/14SpringSmarter_TIDE_UserGuide.pdf

TIDE Training Module:

<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/wp-content/uploads/presentations/TIDE/>

Who to call for help:

Ashley Makowski, Assessment Administrative Assistant

- 406-444-3511 amakowski@mt.gov

Yvonne Field, Assessment Specialist

- 406-444-0748 yfield@mt.gov
- Practice and Training Tests

Pam Birkeland, Special Projects

- pbirkeland@mt.gov
- TIDE

Colet Bartow, CSI

- 406-444-3583 cbartow@mt.gov
- Technology Readiness

Judy Snow, State Assessment Director

- 406-444-3656 jsnow@mt.gov

Help Desk

Hours: 7 AM to 10 PM EST

Email: smarterbalancedhelpdesk@ets.org

Phone: 1-855-833-1969

Helpful information to gather before calling the Help Desk

- Error messages
- Operating system and browser info
- Info about network configuration
- Contact info for follow up

Quote of the Week:

“Don’t let perfect get in the way of progress.”